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NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

Annapolis Valley Regional Library (AVRL)

Children's and Young Adult Librarian Katharine (Kitty) Forrestall retired at the end of April 2005 after almost twenty-three years of service with AVRL. The position has been filled by Angela Reynolds who comes from Portland, Oregon, where she worked for Washington County Cooperative Library Services. Angela started as children's librarian in a small urban library and was then promoted to coordinate Youth Services countywide. In 2003 she was asked to manage the Outreach Services program, which included outreach to homebound patrons, the Latino community, jail library, and children in child care. Angela is also a storyteller and has been involved in various related projects and festivals.

AVRL's Babies & Books program has expanded to 5 libraries, thanks in part to a grant from the IWK Health Foundation External Grants Program and Halifax Youth Foundation. This is a weekly "lapsit" program for newborns up to 24 months where finger plays, books, and songs are enjoyed by all. It lasts 15-20 minutes, and there is time at the end for parents/caregivers to chat.

AVRL was fortunate to have two Hackmatack authors in the region. Pam Hickman presented at the Wolfville Memorial Library and Shari Graydon visited the Windsor branch.

A teen puppet theatre group called "Slightly More Than Three Puppeteers" is offering monthly puppet shows at the Windsor Regional Library. Their first production was on Easter weekend with 80 people in attendance. Since then, a second show time has been added with an attendance cap that better suits the fire marshal! The group is utilizing a used puppet stage, donated to the library by Mermaid Theatre.

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Babies & Books held a special session at a local home for special care, giving the seniors a chance to enjoy the little ones.

Cape Breton Regional Library (CBRL)

Thanks to a Canada Council Hackmatack grant the Cape Breton Regional Library was able to host an author visit from Vancouver- based author, Ainslie Manson. Unfortunately, there was a labour dispute in the Cape Breton Regional School Board at the time that affected the author's school visits. She was very accommodating and the elementary schools who were able to host the author, thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity. She read from her book *Leaving the Log House* and spoke to the children about how she researches and writes her books.

In April, the Mayflower Mall in Sydney showcased an Insectarium exhibit. To join in the creepy-crawly craze, two staff members from the McConnell library visited the mall one Saturday afternoon and held a story time with a bug theme. It was a nice partnership; the mall donated kites to hand out to the children who participated and the library staff were happy to add to the children's excitement over tarantulas, cockroaches, etc.

The McConnell Library's final information session for spring 2005 was held on May 18. The evening's presenter was Reference Librarian, Donnie Ward. Donnie gave an insightful power-point presentation on the library's history, as well as a guided tour of the McConnell library. Donnie's depth of information on the library's history, its supporters and its place in the community was extremely well received by his audience. A major portion of Donnie's talk was on the life and achievements of the library's namesake James McConnell.

Registration for this year's TD Summer Reading Club - Blast Off! will start on Saturday June 18 at the CBRL's branches

and bookmobiles. CBRL is looking forward to participating in the program again this year.

One of the latest Adult Programs to engage patrons at the McConnell Library was an information session on Cosmic Freedom Qigong (chee-kong). Voni King, a certified CFQ instructor explained how CFQ works on the mind/ body/ spirit, it's origins and benefits. Voni also lead the group of close to fifty people in two of the slow moving and peaceful exercises from Cosmic Freedom Qigong.

Over the past year CBRL has had the benefit of co-worker Zahid Akbar's skills. While finishing his Bachelor's in Business Administration (with a major in Information Technology), Zahid has worked on numerous projects for the CBRL. Initially Zahid instructed basic training in e-mail and internet for Seniors. For patrons with a better knowledge of computers, he designed an instructional computer program to teach Microsoft Access. Zahid was also a welcome addition on the circulation desk at the McConnell Library, where he provided computer support for the public who use CAP terminals. Zahid entered the library's vertical file index (approximately 3700 records) into a database that he created. After collecting and entering the vertical file data, Zahid integrated the vertical file index, as well as an index of the Nova Scotia Collection (approximately 3000 titles) onto the library's website. Now both collections are searchable from www.cbrl.ca.

Zahid Akbar graduated from Cape Breton University in May and plans to look for work in Halifax, or Toronto. He made a great impression at CBRL.

Colchester-East Hants Regional Library (CEHRL)

Echoing last summer's experiment in Truro, the new winter reading program was expanded to include adults, inviting them to be good role models by being seen reading. The Elmsdale branch scored the highest number of both adults and children responding. Adding to the fun, six Dell printers, acquired at no charge, became the grand prizes for the adult participants. The Truro library winner, Stephanie Patriquin, had just assured her mother that she did not need to buy her a new printer as she was going to win the one at the library, when she heard the good news!

Left to right: Adult Reading Club winner Stephanie Patriquin receiving her printer from Angela Headon of Truro Branch Adult Services.

Colchester-East Hants Regional Library Foundation

Once again this year, Leave a Legacy™ Week in May saw the library foundation joining with five local charities to promote the importance of wills and the idea of leaving a legacy to your favourite charity. In this year's special feature in the *Truro Daily News*, the article "There's no place like it!" talked about the library and its many services.

The second annual giving campaign raised $16,763.72 and the foundation gave $10,000 to the library board. Added to last year's grant of $15,000, the library will be able to purchase additional books and a collection security system for the Elmsdale and Truro Branches, along with a large supply of detection strips for a retrospective coding of most of the collection. Congratulations to foundation members for a very significant accomplishment and our thanks to all donors!

Colchester-East Hants Library Board Chair John Patterson receives a donation from Edith Patterson (no relation!), Chair of the Library Foundation.

Tulip Time in Truro

Tulips of every colour were in evidence throughout Truro for the eighth annual Tulip Festival held over the Victoria Day weekend. At the centre of activity was the Truro library with the festival's main tent next door, food concessions along the driveway, children's inflatable games on the library lawn, and the Truro Art Society's "Art in Bloom" exhibit in our community room.

On the Saturday, library staff, teen volunteers, and three young entrepreneurs joined in the festivities. Again this year, under the Investors Group canopy, books and more books drew hundreds of customers throughout the library's 5-hour sale. The partners under the canopy -- Beaux Bijoux (three young women who make and sell

jewellery to raise funds for the IWK Health Centre) -- had a great day. They have now raised sufficient funds to have a spot on the Children's Miracle Network telethon in June.

For the first time, local sea cadets set up and took down the canopy and lugged tables and numerous boxes of books upstairs and out to the front lawn. BLAST, (the library's teen group), did a great job hosting a large number of kids, who had lots of fun, both outside and in, with games, crafts, and face painting. At the end of the day, BLAST members were a great help taking the tables and remaining books inside and downstairs. We couldn't have done it without them! Our thanks again this year to Investors Group for the loan of the canopy and a donation of $400.

Eric Manuel presents the Investors Group donation to library director Janet Pelley.

Truro Sea Cadets - a job well done!

Beaux Bijoux for a good cause!

BLAST (the library's teen group) - all together!

Cumberland Regional Library

The Cumberland Regional Library in cooperation with the Cumberland Adult Network for Upgrading (CANU) hosted the second annual "Spread the Word Writers' Café" on April 23 from 8 to 10 p.m. at the Wandlyn Inn. Bruce Nunn (CBC's Mr. Nova Scotia Know -It- All), Linda Little, Sheldon Currie, and Harry Thurston were the featured authors. During the day, a writing workshop was held by Sheldon Currie.

Nine library staff recently attended a training session on babies and books conducted by Carol McDougall from the IWK Read To Me program. The session focused on early brain development and language development as well as how to select appropriate books for babies and how to conduct a parent and baby story time. This workshop was funded by the IWK Read to Me program and will prepare staff to offer programs such as "Babes in Bookland" in all branches. The rollout of these programs began this spring and will continue into the fall.

Marcus Leja, Systems Librarian, attended a CAP sponsored course in Assistive Technology, conducted by Barbara Welsford at the N.S. Community College - Lunenburg Campus in Bridgewater. Other Cumberland County attendees included Steve Weatherbee, Cumberland CAP Coordinator.

As a result of this training, CURL has initiated a pilot project to uncover level of demand in a public library environment for these types of services. The following equipment was purchased: wireless keyboard and mouse,

BigKeys oversized keyboard, and Premier Assistive Technology (A.T.) Productivity Software Suite. The software suite will be hosted on a single public CAP workstation at the Four Fathers Memorial Library. It includes applications enabling patrons to scan material and create their own short talking documents on CD. It also provides a "natural-voice" screen reading application that gives audio navigation cues when using a computer. Additionally, it can be used to read web sites on a set of headphones. (Wireless internet access and high speed internet is now available at all branches of the library).

Beth Powning, author of *The Hatbox Letters* and nominee for the Atlantic Booksellers Award, gave a reading in Pugwash at the end of April with funding from the Canada Council and the Writers' Federation of Nova Scotia.

Children's author Maxine Trottier visited in April as part of the Hackmatack Book Award tour and gave readings in Amherst and Springhill.

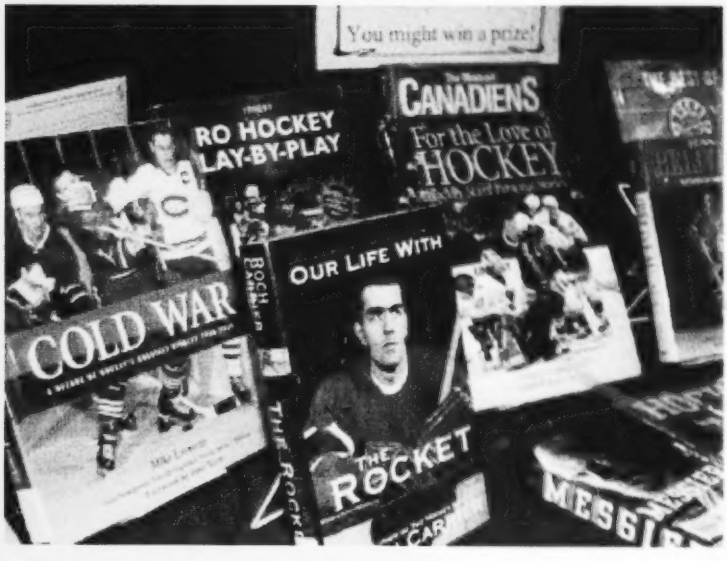
Eastern Counties Regional Library (ECRL)

The ECRL Headquarters Occupational Health and Safety Committee recently hosted a First Aid Certification workshop for members of staff and management. Nine people participated in the 1-day workshop and have now been certified, having completed the Emergency First Aid CPR Level A course.

ECRL staff at the St. John Ambulance workshop held in March.

The workshop was one of several improvements recently spearheaded by the Committee, a result of attendance at a Due Diligence Workshop presented by Safety Check Inspections Ltd. in Sydney last November. The OHS Committee developed a Safety Manual for posting on the Safety Bulletin Board and distribution to current and incoming staff. The manual will also be used as a guide for Branch OHS policies. The Committee also implemented a more thorough inspection routine to be carried out on a regular basis.

Staff were on the road during the month of March during the 4th annual Library Card Month. Grocery stores, drug stores, and hockey rinks were just a few of the venues visited by ECRL as they promoted the library and its services. 279 people became new members during the promotion, qualifying to win one of several newspaper subscriptions donated by The Reporter, The Inverness Oran, and the Guysborough Journal.



Hockey books displayed at the Strait Pirates Junior B game held at the Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre

On-call staff member for the St. Joseph Libr@ry Link site, Rosie Grace, and her friends, recently celebrated the Mi-Carême, an ancient tradition developed in France to relieve people of the sacrifices of Lent. The Acadian region of Northern Cape Breton has successfully kept the tradition alive for over 200 years, a celebration that occurs in the middle of Lent and has expanded to a week-long event. People disguise themselves and go from house to house, trying not to be recognized by their neighbors. The guessing game involves plenty of music, food and laughter!

Rosie Grace and friends celebrating the Mi-Carême!

The Canso Causeway's 50th Anniversary celebration will take place this summer from August 7-14. The week-long celebration will include ceilidhs, dances, concerts, exhibits, fireworks, and more. Connecting Cape Breton to the mainland, the Causeway has become a provincial landmark and a symbol of the region's heritage, culture, growth, and prosperity. It was considered an engineering feat upon completion, creating industry and prosperity as it became the world's largest ice-free port. ECRL Public Services Librarian, Mary Landry, and Mulgrave Library Assistant Joyce Oliver-Snair have been members of the Committee since inception and have plans to coordinate an exhibit at the Mulgrave Library highlighting Mulgrave memories and providing visitors with access to genealogy. As all branches at ECRL have wireless connectivity, it is anticipated that the event will draw many visitors to the Branch to research their past and check their emails. Check out these useful web sites : www.cansocauseway.ca, and www.virtualmuseum.ca.

In recognition of the upcoming Causeway celebrations, Mulgrave Library hosted author Elaine Ingalls Hogg in April. Elaine recently released her latest book entitled "When Canada Joined Cape Breton", a Nimbus publication, which is a compilation of stories celebrating 50 years of the Canso Causeway. The stories have been gathered from those who remember the time before the Causeway was built, its construction, and the effect it had on life for those on either side of it. The Mulgrave event followed the launch of Elaine's book earlier in April and release on April 2 of four new commemorative stamps honoring the bridge as an engineering marvel, with the Canso Causeway chosen as one of the four.

ECRL was pleased to host children's award winning author Dorothy Perkyns in late April. Dorothy toured our region on the eve of the 2005 Hackmatack Children's Choice Awards ceremony, visiting the Canso Library and reading for school students in Mulgrave, Port Hood, and Guysborough. Dorothy read from her nominated book, "Last Days in Africville",

using slides and videos to enhance the presentation.

Author Dorothy Perkyns poses with students at Mulgrave Memorial Education Centre.

ECRL was pleased to partner with staff of the Cape Breton Solid Waste-Resource Management department during compost week in early May.

Cheryl Smith, Rural Waste Reduction Educator, travelled to Libr@ry Link sites in Whycocomagh, Judique, and Inverness that week, setting up a display to inform, and promote awareness, distributing activity and picture books to younger patrons.

Halifax Public Libraries (HPL)

Summer Reading at Halifax Public Libraries!

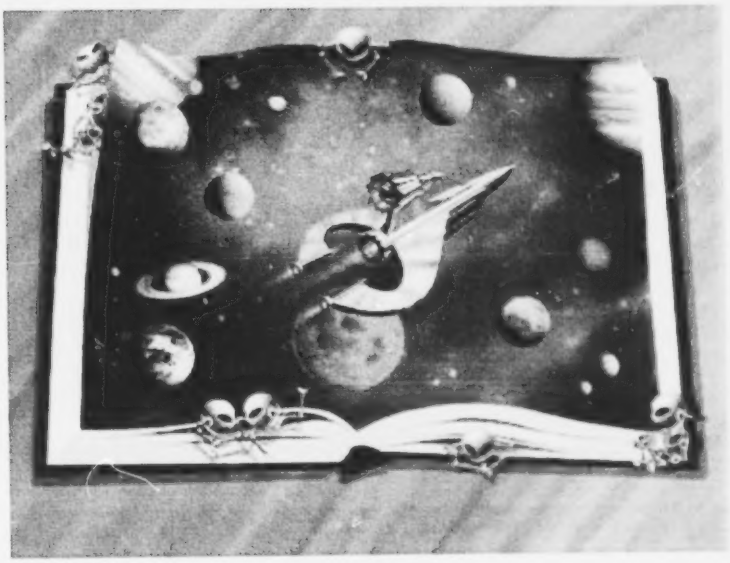
Summer Reading Programs 2005

Halifax Public Libraries is once again pleased to be offering its popular Summer Reading Program. In 2004, over 5400 children in HRM registered for the annual Summer Reading Program, reading nearly 66,000 books, and HPL is hoping for even more young beginner and independent readers to register in 2005.

This year, Halifax Public Libraries will join with libraries across Canada in presenting the TD National Summer Reading Club 2005. This program is offered across the country through the support of TD Bank Financial Group, under the auspices of Library and Archives Canada.

The theme of the TD Summer Reading Club 2005 is *Blast Off!/ Vite en orbite!* and relates to astronauts and spaceships - a beloved theme among children.

This colourful poster of a spaceship will be a highlight of the materials sent out to participants in 2005.



Rock, Rhyme & Read

For younger readers, HPL has a new preschool family reading program entitled "Rock, Rhyme and Read!" Unlike previous years where HPL has offered "Reading Buddy" programs for children 3-5, this year HPL has opened it up to the true absolute beginners - babies.

It's an exciting new way for families to enjoy fun and easy language-based activities that stimulate brain development and build important early literacy skills in babies, toddlers and older preschoolers. When you Rock your baby and talk to them, play a finger rhyme with a toddler or read a story to your four-year old, you are sharing a special time and also beginning to develop the pre-reading skills that build the foundation for reading and learning right from birth.

Halifax Public Libraries' "Book a Computer" Service a Great Success!

The Library's recently implemented computer booking software is, by all accounts, a popular new service with Library customers. Since its January inception, approximately 210,000 total bookings were made by library customers and community groups, either by phone, website, or workstation. E-Learning Services Manager Ryan Deschamps is

pleased with patron response. "HRM citizens can not only book a computer themselves, but can also see the ideal times to do so at their favourite library branch."

Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library (PARL)

The Pictou Library Poetry Reading Series

The Pictou - Antigonish Regional Library held the third installment of its signature outreach event, The Pictou Library Poetry Reading Series, on April 22. Once again over sixty fans of poetry filled Carvers Coffeehouse and Studio on the Pictou waterfront to hear the best of PARL's regional poets. Starting off the night was Halifax spoken - word performer and poet, Shauntay Grant. Following Grant, local musician Jakkie Rogue performed four original songs from her new CD, *Take a Look at This*. Wrapping up the evening, Antigonish poet and educator, Anne Simpson, read from her recent works of poetry with help of friend Pam Calabrese MacLean.

With the success of this outing, it is clear to PARL that there is a demand for public readings in the community, outside the walls of the library program rooms. In October this event will move to Relics Pub, also on the waterfront, to accommodate a larger audience anticipated for the reading of next guests, Sue Goyette, George Elliot Clarke, and a music performer. Given the steady number of author readings held at the New Glasgow Library Program Room, PARL programming staff suggested to the local office of EastLink Television that they consider a program featuring writers. Seeing the merit in this type of community programming, local producers picked up on the suggestion and taped authors Sheldon Currie and Elaine Engalls Hogg in May.

EastLink representative Doug Walsh interviews Cynthia Underwood Thayer, author of the thriller, *A Brief Lunacy*. The series will consist of twelve authors being interviewed and giving short readings. The series will run sometime in the fall in Pictou County, with the possibility of being carried around the province.

Pictou - Antigonish Regional Library recently hired a new manager for the New Glasgow Library. Originally from Cape Breton, Laura Zinck received her Master of Library and Information Science at the University of Western Ontario. With the placement of Ms. Zinck, this will mark the first time PARL has hired a MLIS graduate for branch manager position. As part of her duties, she will be responsible for coordinating collection development. PARL extends a warm welcome to Ms. Zinck and wishes her the best in her new career.

South Shore Regional Library (SSRL)

Library Nominates Sponsor for Award

Lighthouse Publishing was honoured recently for their generous sponsorship of library and youth activities at the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) of Nova Scotia Conference, held at the Lord Nelson Hotel in Halifax. The AFP is the standard-bearer for professionalism in fundraising to more than 26,000 members in 172 chapters throughout the world. South Shore Regional Library and Junior Achievement of Nova Scotia both nominated Lighthouse Publishing in the Outstanding Sponsorship Partner category. They were in good company, with other nominees including Scotian Homes, Nova Scotia Power and Stanhope Simpson Insurance Ltd.

"Lighthouse Publishing's support for the Library is evident in its year-round coverage and support of Library events and activities", says Chief Librarian Janet Clark. Lighthouse Publishing came on board as the sponsor of the South Shore Regional Library's annual Adopt-A-Book campaign in 2002. Since then, Lighthouse has provided both free and cost-reduced advertising space and has printed more than 20,000 Adopt-A-Book bookmarks for distribution throughout SSRL's service area of Lunenburg and Queens Counties, helping Library staff raise more than $29,000 for new Library books. Lighthouse Publishing is an important community partner for the Library and is influential in encouraging others to support the Library.

Lynn Hennigar, President and General Manager of Lighthouse Publishing, and Bernadette Jordan, Special Projects Manager, accept a plaque recognizing their nomination in the AFP's 'Outstanding Sponsorship Partner' Category.

Book Sale

The South Shore Regional Library's April Book Sale was a success. Hundreds of avid readers visited the Book Sale on a beautiful spring day. By the end of the weekend, 300 boxes of books had gone home with happy new owners and the Library was $5,300 richer for the effort. Proceeds from the sale will be used to purchase$1,000 worth of new books for each Branch. New books are affixed with a small bookplate. The Library book sale has raised over $65,000 in 25 years.

Dozens of book lovers search for 'treasure' at SSRL's regular book sale. The sale is held twice a year - in April and September, and raises approx. $10,000 per year for new books.

Council Open Houses

Have bus, will travel. SSRL Board and Staff invited Councils in this region to come to the Library this spring to see what their tax dollars are funding. Wherever that is not possible, SSRL will take the Library to Council. Councilors in the Region of Queens and the Town of Lunenburg toured the Libraries/Mobiles that serve their areas. Councilors in the

Municipality of Chester got a tour of the recently refurbished Mobile Library 2. Staff gave a short presentation of online and onsite services to each Council. Similar tours for the remaining Councils in our region are in the works.

Be Well Connected

The Canadian Library Association chose Be Well Connected, the Health and Wellness Information Line in which the Library is a partner, as the topic of a poster session at its annual conference this June in Calgary. Be Well Connected is an information line linking callers to programs and services in their communities. Program partners include South Shore Health, Lunenburg County Community Health Board, Nova Scotia Health Network and the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg.

Author Visits

Students in 3 South Shore schools had the opportunity to meet and hear some great authors recently while they were in Nova Scotia for the Hackmatack Awards. Shari Graydon visited Newcombville Elementary, Pamela Hickman spoke to kids in Petite Riviere and John Wilson visited students at Chester Area Middle School in late April.

Western Counties Regional Library (WCRL)

Online service helps navigate life issues

Life is full of important events such as getting married, having a baby, or preparing for retirement. It is also filled with challenges, such as losing a wallet or financial difficulties. Government @ Your Service can help you find what you need, whatever the departments, and whatever the level of government. The service was piloted across the province, including at the Shelburne branch of the Western Counties Regional Library. It is now available throughout the province and library staff will be trained on navigating the site to help those in need. "It's really useful when you are looking for something," says Suzanne Grear, library clerk with the McKay Memorial Library in Shelburne. "All the stuff is information you are going to use at some point in your life."

New buildings for two WCRL branches

The Western Counties Regional Library is excited that two of its branches will be receiving new buildings. The municipalities of Barrington and Digby have said Barrington and Weymouth branches, respectively, will be moving into new facilities within the next two years. Both will conform to provincial standards providing the libraries with larger collections, more computer terminals, and better access and activity space.

Martine Latulippe directs two students as they act out one of the author's stories. French Canadian author Martine Latulippe, nominated for Lorian Loubier, grand justicier toured branches in Pubnico, Yarmouth, Weymouth and Clare. Toronto-based author Deborah Ellis, the 2005 Hackmatack Award winner for Mud City, visited the Isaiah W. Wilson Memorial Library in Digby on April 21.

Ryan McKenzie with the Gates Computer Lab at the Western Counties Regional Library explains the function of a video with audio support for the visually impaired to Leona Brown at the VON Fun for the Young at Heart in April. The library was a partner in the event helping to organize workshops ranging from computer basics to scrap booking.

Joanne Head, right, Co-ordinator of Children's Services with the Western Counties Regional Library, introduces Grade 11 Family Studies students from Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High School to the Read to Me! Nova Scotia Family Literacy Program. Joanne's presentation stresses the importance of children's literacy in childhood development and learning and pre-literacy skills.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL OF INFORMATION MANAGEMENT, DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY (SIM)

The School of Information Management (SIM) has been approved by Dalhousie University as the new name of the School of Library and Information Studies, effective May 9, 2005. The School is an integral part of the multidisciplinary Faculty of Management. The new name reflects and promotes the breadth of the education and research conducted by members of the School, and emphasizes that the School recruits for, and educates, graduates for a wide array of information management positions.

Potential employers are asked to consult *Prospectus 2005* (http://students.library-school.dal.ca/prospectus/), a collection of student profiles created by SIM students. Profiles for the students describe each person's career aspirations and provide details about background experiences and acquired skills. Profiles can be searched by category or by keyword.

JoAnn Watson joined SIM on May 16, 2005 in the role of MLIS Programme Coordinator. Ms. Watson will support students in the School's ALA-accredited MLIS programme and will foster wide professional connections in the LIS community regionally and nationally. With over twenty years experience in the field of information management, Ms. Watson has worked with both the federal and provincial governments, as well as having held positions in the corporate and non-profit sectors. As Head of the Sound and Moving Image Division at the Public Archives of Nova Scotia, Ms. Watson developed a keen interest in issues relating to preservation and audio-visual media. An active participant and member in local, national and international professional associations, Ms. Watson has organized professional conferences and workshops in Halifax, Montreal, Miami, Los Angeles and Portland, Oregon.

Ms. Watson graduated with her Masters of Science in Library and Information Science from the Palmer School of Library and Information Science, Long Island University in 1998.

NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL LIBRARY NEWS

Staff News

A native of Moscow, Russia, Anton Chuppin came to Halifax from Urbana, Illinois, where he graduated from the Library School at the University of Illinois and worked at the National Supercomputing Agency as a software engineer. His previous library experience is in cataloguing, but he was largely doing web development work for the past last six years. He would like to thank the staff of the Nova Scotia Provincial Library for the warm welcome and say that he's glad to be in Canada, in Halifax, and back working with libraries!

Anton Chuppin joined the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, June 6, 2005 as Resource Sharing & New Technologies Librarian.

Training News

On May 2, Pat Milner and Pam Ellis of the Annapolis Valley Regional Library (AVRL) Reference & Interlibrary Loan sections attended an all day session on AMICUS training at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. The session was an update of AMICUS searching techniques and strategies that would be used for Interlibrary loan & references purposes. The training session, led by Dale MacMillan of the Interlibrary Loan section at the Provincial Library, consisted of hands on training which involved using Basic and Advanced searching techniques, and strategies specific to finding locations and requesting interlibrary loans. The session also included sections specifically tailored to questions submitted by AVRL, and an opportunity for AVRL to share with Nova Scotia Provincial Library staff the type of requests they receive and search for their patrons. (This latter step is taken prior to sending requests to Nova Scotia Provincial Library for

further searching). On May 19, the Nova Scotia Provincial Library hosted a Talking Books meeting for 13 regional public library staff, to discuss latest user trends and National Library and Archives planning, among other items. Actions were decided upon, and it is expected that this meeting will be followed up by another in the fall, to be held by videoconference.

On May 20, the Nova Scotia Provincial Library hosted InfoTrac training that took place for 20 regional public library participants. A question and answer period was very helpful, and the shortcuts and tips offered were appreciated.

Library Hot Topics Teleconference

The last College of DuPage satellite teleconference for 2004/2005 was hosted at the Provincial Library on April 29. The title of this teleconference was "Library Hot Topics: Discussions and Interviews" and it was part of the *Library Challenges & Opportunities* series hosted by Richard Dougherty. There was a panel discussion among four past, current and future presidents of the American Library Association on a range of topics such as privacy of patron records, school library services, library salaries, Google's plan to digitize several million volumes, and the adequacy of library school education.

As a local activity following the broadcast, Sandra Toze, a Lecturer at the School of Library & Information Studies, Dalhousie University, spoke about "hot topics" which concern her as a result of constant advances in technology. For example just because a new technology is available, information managers shouldn't always rush to adopt it, rather they should examine it more closely to see if it is actually going to be beneficial. The profession, she continued, should look at ways to engage users more in searching for information, and in spite of hot topics librarians and information managers shouldn't neglect our roots as librarians. Sandra then led a discussion among participants about their "hot topics". A video of the teleconference broadcast is available for loan from the Provincial Library's Professional Collection. To search the collection, click on the NS Provincial Library link on the NcompasS page at http://ncompass.library.ns.ca/

Audio Conferences

The spring continued to be a busy season for audio conferences from The Education Institute: The learning programs of the APLA-BCLA-LAA-NSLA-NWTLA-OLA-SLA Partnership. The offerings included a three part series on "Library Marketing That Works" with Suzanne Walters, Director of Marketing and Development, Denver Public Library. This series was well-attended by staff from university, school, special libraries and students as well as public library staff around the province who dialed in from their own locations. Other audio conference highlights included a "Smart Search Update" session with expert searcher Rita Vine. Another popular program was "Key Practices in Developing Managers and Leaders" in which Ernie Ingles, Chief Librarian, University of Alberta, and well-known leader and educator in the library profession, spoke about the results of the study "The 8Rs: The Future of Human Resources in Canadian Libraries" which he chaired.

Rural Librarianship Teleconference Series

A four part teleconference series on Rural Librarianship with Bernard Vavrek, Director of the Center for the Study of Rural Librarianship, Clarion University of Pennsylvania and Founder of the Association of Rural and Small Libraries was hosted at the Provincial Library during April and May. This was a Continuing Professional Development program of the Canadian Library Association. Staff from Eastern Counties Regional Library, Colchester-East Hants Regional Library, Cumberland Regional Library, South Shore Regional Library and Western Counties Regional Library participated in this series from their own locations.

NOVA SCOTIA DIGITAL COLLECTIONS INITIATIVE (NSDCI) WORKSHOP

The Nova Scotia Digital Collections Initiative (NSDCI) held its first workshop, "Bringing Resources to the Public: Steps in Planning and Implementing an Online Project" on April 22 and 23, 2005. The workshop was co-sponsored by Dalhousie University (Academic Computing Services and the Electronic Text Centre, School of Information Management, and the Killam Library), Nova Scotia Office of Economic Development, Industry Canada - Community Access Program, Nova Scotia Library Association, Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management, Nova Scotia Provincial Library, and Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library.

The thirty participants were involved in sessions that addressed a variety of topics, such as the analysis and design of projects and websites, an overview of metadata standards in common use, and the use of web authoring software,

audio and video components (including capture and preparation), literary text markup, scanning and preparation of images and text (including OCR), database integration, and geographic information systems. Participants indicated that they were very satisfied with the workshop and that they would be interested on more specific courses on selected topics.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SHARING SESSION

An enthusiastic group of library staff from various regional libraries gathered at the Provincial Library Friday, April 15 to "launch" into lively discussion and share ideas about programming for the TD summer reading program. Lynda Marsh, Colchester-East Hants Regional Library and Linda Arsenault, Pictou- Antigonish Regional Library convened the program.

Over 30 library staff participated in the session focusing on sharing ideas and programs to use with this year's summer reading program. The space theme and slogan " Blast Off !" allowed for the design of many creative and fun activities to do with children this summer.

Craft ideas to support the theme were also demonstrated and discussed around the table. There was a general consensus by the group that the day's events were of value to children's programming staff because of the practical and useful information delivered. The November meeting theme will be on puppets!

The HACKMATACK AWARD CEREMONY

The Hackmatack Award ceremony is a celebration of reading and writing shared by the participating children and the nominated authors. Young readers from across the region join the authors of the nominated books to applaud the results of their reading and voting. Twenty nominated authors participated in this year's ceremony, held on April 22, 2005 at Pier 21 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Readers from many participating communities cheered for the 2005 Hackmatack Award winners - Deborah Ellis, the author of ***Mud City*** was the winner in the English fiction category, Diane Swanson received the English nonfiction award for her book ***Tunnels!*** and the winner of the French category was Alain M. Bergeron for ***Zak le fantôme***. The ceremony was followed by book signings and a reception with the nominees and 350 young readers.

Touring Hackmatack authors at the 2005 Hackmatack Awards Ceremony at Pier 21. Starting at the bottom right and moving clockwise: Deborah Ellis; Diane Swanson; Maxine Trottier, author of *Alone in an Untamed Land*, Shari Graydon, author of *Made You Look*, and Sarah Ellis, author of *The Several Lives of Orphan Jack*.

Deborah Ellis (middle front) learns she has won for her book, *Mud City*, at the 2005 Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Awards ceremony. This is Ellis's second win with Hackmatack; in 2002 she picked up the prize in fiction for *Parvana's Journey*, the story of a young girl growing up in Afghanistan. Patrick Jeffery, her introducer, celebrates behind her.

2005 APLA CONFERENCE, MAY 25 - 29, 2005

The Westin Nova Scotia Hotel in Halifax was the location of the successful 2005 Atlantic Provinces Library Association (APLA) Annual Conference. APLA represents three hundred librarians, library technicians and library support workers in the four Atlantic Provinces. Its mission is to represent, promote and support the interests of the library community in Atlantic Canada.

Stephen Kimber gave the keynote address at APLA on Friday, May 27. He is an award winning nonfiction writer and teacher whose first novel will be published soon by HarperCollins. In his talk, he described the creative journey from his 1998 nonfiction book Not Guilty: The Trial of Gerald Regan to Reparations, his fictional take on sex, power, politics, race and justice in Nova Scotia. This workshop was generously sponsored by Halifax Public Libraries.

The APLA 2005 Merit Awards Banquet & Dance took place on May 28. The banquet honours individuals each year who have made substantial contributions to the library community. The APLA 2005 Merit Award was presented by out-going Past President Laurette Mackey to Michael Colborne, Acting Provincial Librarian and Coordinator of User Services at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. Michael Colborne started his library career as a library assistant after obtaining his undergraduate degree at Mt. Allison University. He is a graduate of the College of Librarianship, University of Wales, Aberystwyth.

During the last thirty years, Mr. Colborne has held a variety of positions at the Dartmouth Regional Library, the Halifax City Regional Library, and the Halifax Regional Library and most recently the Provincial Library. He has been instrumental in the Professional Partnering Programme offered by Dalhousie University's newly named School of Information Management and he has held executive positions on the boards of the Nova Scotia Library Association and the Canadian Library Association. He has just been named the regional developer for the Provincial and Territorial Library Associations' Education Institute. Nominator and incoming APLA President,

Jennifer Richard describes Michael as "a leader, a mentor to young librarians, an advocate for libraries and community access programmes, and a friend to the library community".

The dance that followed, featured music by fellow librarian Patrick Ellis, Kellogg Library, Dalhousie University. The J. P. Ellis Band 60's style swing got everyone into a dancing mood!

Left to right: Ms. Mackey presents the APLA 2005 Merit Award to Michael Colborne, on Saturday, May 28. Looking on is outgoing APLA President, Allan Groen.

Associated Alumni AGM and reception at APLA

Approximately 30 participants turned out for the Associated Alumni AGM and reception which were held on May 28, during the APLA conference. After the official business was concluded by outgoing Chair, Michelle Paon, presentations were made to congratulate the Class of 1985 on their 20th anniversary and to thank Judy Dunn for her years of service to the Associated Alumni. Congratulations were also extended to the Class of 2005, a number of whose members were present at the AGM.

Four 1985 SLIS graduates were honoured at the reception and Annual General Meeting of the Associated Alumni, May 28, at APLA. Left to right: Phyllis Ross, Ian Colford, Penny Logan, and Patricia Gallant.

Left to right: Steve Lelievre, 2004/5 Associated Alumni Program Coordinator gives a hug to Judy Dunn, outgoing MLIS Programme Coordinator.

Left to right: Tanja Harrison, 2004-2005 Associated Alumni Past Chair and Michelle Paon, 2005-2006 Associated Alumni Past Chair.

Every Child Ready to Read: the Power of Early Literacy

Approximately 50 enthusiastic participants attended the pre-conference session, Every Child Ready to Read: the Power of Early Literacy. Helen Benoit, Director, Children's and Young Adult Services, Hamilton Public Library and Heather Mackenzie, Resource Manager, Preschool and Elementary Services, Halifax Public Libraries, presented the session. The first part of the day centered around the Every Child Ready to Read program which fosters pre-literacy skills in babies, toddlers and preschoolers. The second part of the day was spent learning how to transform traditional library spaces into rich learning environments (through celebrating the value of play) and how to infuse our core programs with important pre-reading skills. A slide show presentation, videos and participatory exercises kept everyone attentive and involved. Both sessions were informative and full of practical suggestions for librarians, teachers, childcare providers and parents.

Left to right: Helen Benoit, Director, Children's and Young Adult Services, Hamilton Public Library and Heather Mackenzie, Resource Manager, Preschool and Elementary Services, Halifax Public Libraries discussing early literacy.

The New World of Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy and the Protection of Personal Information and Electronic Data Act: Implications for Libraries and Information Services

Andrea John, FOIPOP Administrator, N.S. Dept. Of Education and David Fraser, lawyer, McInnes and Cooper presented a workshop that featured legal and government perspectives on FOIPOP and PIPEDA within library and information settings. Leo Deveau and Michael Colborne convened this session in which Ms. John and Mr. Fraser shared their knowledge and perspectives, as well as addressed questions on policy development, and specific access practices within library settings. This session was generously sponsored by CASLIS Atlantic and the Nova Scotia Provincial Library.

Investing in the Future: the Power of Professional Partnering

For the past three years the Professional Partnering program has matched students from the Dalhousie School of Library and Information Studies with practising librarians. Elizabeth Millar, a former student partner, spoke about the value of the program for students, and also provided some statistics showing how the program has developed over the years. One year, for example, the students had a substantial interest in archival work, while the next, in public libraries, creating challenges for the committee making the matches. Judy Dunn spoke about the value of the program for the school in strengthening relationships with the library community, and provided an overview of similar programs in other schools. Michael Colborne spoke about the origin of the program, and Heather Berringer's initiative in getting the first year off the ground. Michael also talked about the value of the program to practitioners, keeping them in touch with younger librarians, and bringing them closer to the school.

@ Your Library

The "@ your library(TM)" campaign has been adopted by many library organizations worldwide, and 7 provincial associations in Canada including NSLA and APLA. It serves as a recognizable brand for libraries of all kinds : college, university, special, public and school. Trudy Amirault, Library Director, WCRL, Donna Hendy, Training & Development Consultant, Nova Scotia Department of Education, and Mary Landry, Public Services Manager, ECRL, convened a very exciting session at the APLA conference, where participants exchanged ideas about how we can use the brand locally and regionally. OLA, CLA and IFLA provide more information on their web sites, including multilingual and multicultural branding tools. The brand can be used as a means to draw attention to what is unique and invaluable about libraries and their staff :

*libraries are changing and dynamic places

*libraries are places of opportunity

*libraries bring you the world

Left to right: Trudy Amirault, Donna Hendy and Mary Landry. All three were instrumental in leading a very successful workshop on the @ your library(TM) theme.

Breaking Barriers: Library Services to Diverse Communities

Glenna Quinn, Head, Collections Services, Angus L. MacDonald Library, St. Francis Xavier University, Charla Williams, Coordinator, Diversity Programs, Halifax Regional Municipality and Tracey Jones, Manager of ESL, Literacy and Diversity Services, Halifax Public Library gave a presentation on the cultural diversity that has become a part of our lives, thanks, largely, to immigration and globalization. As the Atlantic region moves forward on immigration initiatives and the diversity of communities served by libraries changes, libraries are reaching out to diverse communities. The session looked at the culturally diverse campus and the roles and responsibilities of academic libraries with regard to fostering diversity, and examined how public libraries are trying to break down barriers and better reflect their diverse clientele.

Left to right: Glenna Quinn, Charla Williams and Tracey Jones.

Nova Scotia Business Room: An Innovative Partnership

Eric Stackhouse, Chief Librarian, Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library and Steven Feindel, Director E-Services, Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations (SNSMR) presented the Business Room session, a unique

partnership between SNSMR and Nova Scotia public libraries. Recognizing the value in involving public librarians in the content and design, and utilizing the technology expertise within the government, a strategy developed that moved beyond the original site of Pictou-Antigonish to provide a template for a business portal for all regional libraries across Nova Scotia. The aim of organizing web resources of all levels of government around the key processes of starting, operating and growing a business provides an intuitive easy to use search interface for business information. Beyond the public libraries and the Nova Scotia government, the Nova Scotia Business Room has both involved and served as a tool for local business consultants, regional development agencies and business users, providing many layers of information and assistance. This model would export well to other provinces. Thoughtful questions from the audience extended the discussion.

Steven Feindel, Director E-Services, Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations makes a point about the partnership's vision of empowering citizens to find their own information.

Bringing Science and Technology Together: The Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information's (CISTI) Competitive Technical Intelligence Service

Bernadette Kennedy, CISTI, Information Specialist (for New Brunswick), Competitive Technical Intelligence, Mary Veling, CISTI, Information Specialist (for Nova Scotia), Competitive Technical Intelligence and Shirley MacLeod, CISTI, Head, NRC Information Centre, Charlottetown presented a fascinating look at some of the detailed services they provide for CISTI clients. In 2000/1, CISTI initiated a competitive technical intelligence (CTI) service in Atlantic Canada. The CTI team consists of information specialists and business analysts working as a single unit to provide value added information services to the National Research Council (NRC)'s Industrial Technology Advisors. These advisors deliver NRC's Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP), helping companies in Atlantic communities to define their technical needs, identify technical opportunities, solve product and production problems, and acquire technology and/or expertise.

Left to right: Shirley MacLeod, Mary Veling and Bernadette Kennedy during their Q & A portion of their excellent presentation.

Growing up with Google

Gwendolyn MacNairn, Computer Science Librarian, Dalhousie University, gave a presentation on the use and impact of Google to a group of approximately 70 people, who were eager to learn how to get across better searching principles in an easy-to-use way. Gwen also spent some time demonstrating Google Scholar. This popular session addressed the best use of simple instructional techniques that can be used in schools and universities.

Left to right: Gwendolyn MacNairn, Computer Science Librarian, Dalhousie University and incoming APLA President, Jennifer Richard at "Growing up with Google."

Peggy Hiscock, Finance & Fundraising Manager, Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library, chats to APLA attendees about services provided by the regional libraries, the Friends of Canadian Libraries, and the Nova Scotia Digital Collections Initiative (NSDCI).

Elizabeth Parnell, Technical Services, Nova Scotia Provincial Library, (right) won a digital camera at APLA! Lindy Totty of Sentry Technology Corporation (left) presented the prize donated by her company.

Left to right: Enjoying the conference - Joanne Tupper, Technical Services, Carol Morris, User Services, Lynne McCulley, Technical Services, and Elizabeth Parnell, Technical Services, all of Nova Scotia Provincial Library.

HOT TIPS AND UPDATES

NSLA/LBANS Conference, September 30 to October 2, 2005

Be sure not to miss the 2005 NSLA/LBANS Conference hosted by the Cumberland Regional Library September 30 to October 2, 2005. The conference site will be the Wandlyn Inn in Amherst. Some of the workshops planned include:

- **Blogs : what are they and how can they be used?**
- **Library Advocacy.** Wendy Newman, former President of CLA and Librarian in Residence at U of T, and Ella Nason of the New Brunswick Library Service will conduct a three part session on advocacy.
- **Author reading with local author Harry Thurston from his latest book *A Place Between the Tides*.**
- **Author reading with popular young adult author James Heneghan.** Mr. Heneghan, whose books have won numerous awards, is from Vancouver and this reading is pending funding from the Canada Council.

- **Do's and don'ts of creating posters, brochures, and other types of in-house publicity.** This session will be convened by graphic designer Cathy Little who has designed several promotional materials for the NS Provincial Library.

- **Assistive technology for the disabled.** This session will offer simple, affordable ways to make computers in libraries and CAP sites more accessible to those with physical challenges.
- **Public speaking tips**. This session will be convened by a representative from Toastmasters.
- **Satellite sites.** Representatives from Pictou-Antigonish, Eastern, and Colchester East Hants Regional Libraries will discuss how they handle satellite sites in their region. Satellite sites have been successfully used for bookmobile replacement in some areas.
- **"Dewey Divas and Dudes"** . A team of publishers will recommend great new books for kids and adults.
- **20 Tips for the 1 Person Library**. Many small and rural libraries are run single handedly from day to day including public libraries, school libraries, and government libraries. Find out some tips of how to manage when you are a "one man show".
- **@ your library campaign.** This catchy tag line was created by the American Library Association and has been adopted by several Canadian library associations. Trudy Amirault explains how to incorporate this slogan into your library's publicity.

Pre-conference sessions will be held on Friday afternoon on Project Management and Storytelling. A Wine & Cheese reception will be held at the Amherst Library on Friday evening and will be a great time to meet new colleagues and renew old friendships. The Library Technician Mentoring Program will also be launched that evening. Saturday night's banquet promises to be great fun with great food and a magician on hand for the entertainment!

LINKed

In this Linked column some useful sites for finding information on the history of world expositions and facts on past expos are brought together. The 2005 World Exposition is currently taking place in Aichi, Japan. The web site for this can be viewed at http://www-1.expo2005.or.jp/en/ where you can explore the layout of Expo 2005 and see what is going on there. For a view of Canada's pavilion and activities go to http://www.expo2005canada.gc.ca/

ExpoMuseum at http://www.expomuseum.com/ lists world fairs from 1851, the date of the first one, to present. There are links to external sites with information about particular exhibitions. However no links or information are available for a number of older exhibitions. This site was produced by graphic designer Urso S. A. Chappell who notes that he has a passion for world's fairs.

Bureau International des Expositions (International Exhibitions Bureau), a regulatory organization at http://www.bie-paris.org/main/index.php?lang=1 has statistical and descriptive information for international exhibitions from 1851 to the present. Information about the various exhibitions is in a mixture of English and French.

Geppert, Alexander C.T., Jean Coffey and Tammy Lau: International Exhibitions, Expositions Universelles and World's Fairs, 1851-1951: A Bibliography, in: *Wolkenkuckucksheim: Internationale Zeitschrift fur Theorie und Wissenschaft der Architektur* (Special Issue, 2000).

http://www.theo.tu-cottbus.de/Wolke/eng/Bibliography/ExpoBibliography.htm
This is a detailed bibliography which according to the description of it "includes approximately 1,200 items and covers more than one hundred different fairs held in more than twenty different countries". There is only one weakness in this bibliography - the section listing internet resources which has a number of dead links. Otherwise this is an excellent resource for those seeking information on the history of international fairs and exhibitions.

Revisiting the World's Fairs and International Expositions: A Selected Bibliography, 1992-2004. Smithsonian Institution Libraries, Washington, D.C., 2005.http://www.sil.si.edu/silpublications/worlds-fairs/

This is an attractive and well organized site which covers monographs, articles, dissertations, and web sites on

more recent world fairs and exhibitions. Citations are organized by format and by Fair or Exposition. There is also a section with images from the Smithsonian Institution Libraries' World's Fairs and Expositions collections. Unlike the bibliography, these images are of fairs and exhibitions in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Web sites which were featured in previous "Linked" columns are arranged by subject category on the Reference Services page of the Provincial Library web site at http://www.library.ns.ca/services/reference/index.htm. If you have any suggestions about future topics for this column please contact Carol Morris at morrisc@gov.ns.ca.

PROFESSIONAL COLUMN

In this month's column, two recent additions to the professional collection are featured. These items can be borrowed through regular interlibrary loan channels. Please send requests via email to Dale MacMillan at inshpl@nshpl.library.ns.ca

Hernon, Peter. And Dugan, Robert E. **An action plan for outcomes assessment in your library.** Chicago : American Library Association, 2002. [Call #: PROF 027 .7 Her]

The authors of this book pose and address the following critical questions:

1. How have users of your library changed as a result of their contact with your library's collections and services?

2. Are they more information literate, likely to engage in lifelong planning, and more effective and efficient in using search strategies?

This book is intended as a practical, how-to-manual with detailed examples from actual assessment programs. It will prepare you to plan an outcomes assessment strategy for your library that is in line with accrediting guidelines; to execute your plan by identifying user needs, collecting and analyzing data and presenting your findings; to measure the value of the services you are providing and identify areas for improvement. Also included are policies of major accrediting bodies for higher education, guidelines developed by the Association for Research and College Libraries, and a chapter that applies academic library outcomes assessment to public libraries.

Bennett, Scott. **Library as place : rethinking roles, rethinking space.** Washington, DC : Council on Library and Information Resources, 2005. [Call #: PROF 022 .3 Lib]

We are still far from the day when students, researchers, and teachers can access entire research collections from their desktops. Nonetheless, a wealth of high-quality material is now accessible electronically. What does this revolutionary change mean for the creation and design of library space? What is the role of a library when it no longer needs to be a warehouse of books and when users can obtain information without setting foot in its doors? This book seeks to explore these questions from a variety of perspectives. This book stimulates thinking about the role of the library in the digital age, about the potential - and the imperative - for libraries to meet new needs and about how these needs will influence the design of physical space.

Credits go to:

Linda Arsenault, Pictou- Antigonish Regional Library
Michael Colborne, Acting Provincial Librarian and Coordinator of User Services, Nova Scotia Provincial Library
Mary Landry, Public Services Manager, Eastern Counties Regional Library
Lynne McCulley, Technical Services, Nova Scotia Provincial Library
Frances Newman, Chief Librarian, Cumberland Regional Library
Louise Spiteri, Assistant Professor, School of Information Management, Faculty of Management, Dalhousie University
Sandra Toze, Lecturer, School of Information Management, Faculty of Management, Dalhousie University

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Comments on or suggestions for The Disseminator should be directed to Jill Webster at webstegs@gov.ns.ca

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